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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/725,506	12/03/2003	Choong-Jac Lee	P-0604	5025
34610	7590	11/01/2007	EXAMINER	
KED & ASSOCIATES, LLP			DABNEY, PHYLESHA LARVINIA	
P.O. Box 221200			ART UNIT	
Chantilly, VA 20153-1200			PAPER NUMBER	
			2614	
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			11/01/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No:

10/725,506

Applicant(s)

LEE, CHOONG-JAE

Examiner

Phylesha L. Dabney

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 July 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-11 and 13-43 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) 21,22,24,26-28,31,36,37 and 39-42 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-11,13-20,23,29,30,32,33,35,38,43 and 44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 25 and 34 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

This action is in response to the amendment response on 5 February 2003 in which claims 1-31 are pending.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 14-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 14-19 recites the limitation "the protrusion" in the claim(s). There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3-11, 13-15, 17, 19-20, 23, 29-30, 32-33, 35, 38, and 43-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Makino et al (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0077385) in view of Inubushi (U.S. Patent No. 6,064,453).

Regarding claims 1, 5, 8-10, 29-30, and 43-44, Markino teaches a housing for a display module of a mobile terminal, comprising: an upper cover (22), a lower cover (21) configured to be attached to the upper cover; a display module (20) disposed between the upper cover and the lower cover, the display module comprising at least a sub display (5) and a main display (4).

Makino does not teach the construction of the display module.

Inubushi teaches a display a buffering member (7) disposed between at least a portion of the upper cover (Inubushi, 1) and the sub display (display, 4) and configured to prevent an external force applied to the upper cover from being transmitted to the display module (col. 2 lines 4-8); and a rib (1) formed at an opening portion of the upper cover, wherein the buffering member (fig. 3, 7) is disposed between a lower surface of the rib and an upper surface of the sub display. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

Regarding claims 3-4 and 13, the combination of Makino and Inubushi teaches the housing of claim 1, wherein the buffering member comprises a resin material (rubber, 7) having a predetermined elasticity.

Regarding claims 6-7 and 32, the rejection of claim 1 above supports all of the limitations of claim 6 except, wherein the buffering member comprises a plurality of vent holes provided along a surface of the buffering member.

However, the Examiner takes official notice that it is known to structure a buffering member to include venting to prevent moisture buildup. Therefore, it would have been obvious

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to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to structure the buffering member of the combination of Makino and Inubushi for the reason above.

Regarding claims 11 and 17, the combination of Makino and Inubushi teaches the housing of claim 10, wherein the buffering member further comprises a second buffering member (9) disposed between an inner surface of the upper cover and an upper surface of the display module, wherein the second buffering member is configured to absorb an impact generated by a laterally applied force on the protrusion portion.

Regarding claims 14-15 and 33, see the rejection of claims 1, 10 and 11 relative to figure 3.

Regarding claims 19 and 35, the rejection of claims 1, 10 and 11 above supports all of the limitations of claim 19 except, wherein the second buffering member (9) is configured to be attached to a lower surface of the protrusion portion and comprises a plate type member which maintains a substantially constant gap with an upper surface of the display module.

Regarding claim 20, the combination of Makino and Inubushi teaches the housing of claim 1, further comprising a first reinforcing member (9) disposed at an inner surface of the protrusion portion of the upper cover and configured to reinforce a strength of the protrusion portion of the upper cover.

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Regarding claims 23 and 38, the rejection of claims 1, 8, and 20 above supports all of the limitations of claim 19 except, wherein the first reinforcing member (9) comprises a metal material.

However, the Examiner takes official notice that it is known to construct assembly parts of mobile phones using metal material for sturdiness. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to use metal material in the invention of the combination of Makino and Inubushi for the reason stated above.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 25 and 34 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 21-22, 24, 26-28, 31, 36-37, and 39-42 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

#### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phylesha L. Dabney whose telephone number is 571-272-7494. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 8:30-4 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on 571-272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Or faxed to:**  
(703) 273-8300, for formal communications intended for entry and for informal or draft communications, please label "Proposed" or "Draft" when submitting an informal amendment.

**Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:**  
Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

October 23, 2007

PLD

  
MELUR RAMAKRISHNAIAH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER